

*J1*  
*ant.*  
aliphatic carboxylic acids having hydrocarbon chains  
consisting of 8 to 20 carbon atoms.--

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Add the following new claims:

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--30. The filter material of claim 18 wherein the matrix, prior to incorporation therein of said material comprising a base formed substantially of cellulose fibers, has a density no greater than  $0.25 \text{ gcm}^{-3}$ .

*Dz*  
--31. The filter material of claim 30 wherein said density is  $0.01$  to  $0.18 \text{ gcm}^{-3}$ .

--32. The filter material of claim 31 wherein said matrix has a thickness of about 3 mm to about 4 mm.

--33. The filter material of claim 18 wherein said cellulose fibers, by virtue of said one or more aliphatic carboxylic acids being adsorbed thereon, comprise hydrophobic hydrocarbon chains projecting therefrom.

~~--34. In a filter device comprising at least one filter element, the improvement wherein said at least one filter element comprises the filter material of claim 18.--~~

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REMARKS

The Official Action of February 13, 2001, and the references cited and applied therein have been carefully